The regular meeting of the Bowling Green City Council, held in the Council Chamber, 304 North Church Street, Bowling Green, Ohio was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Aspacher. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, Council Members Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland and Zanfardino responded. Also present were Mayor Richard Edwards, Municipal Administrator John Fawcett, Public Works Director Brian Craft, Utilities Director Brian O'Connell, Planning Director Heather Sayler, and Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Grigore. City Attorney Michael Marsh was not present.

Council Member McOmber moved, Gavarone seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held July 7, 2014 as distributed. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk Kay Scherreik noted for the record that copies of the Budget Summary Report for the month of June 2014 was distributed to Council prior to this evening's meeting.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

Mayor Dick Edwards had no report.

Municipal Administrator John Fawcett had no report.

Planning Director Heather Sayler reported regarding her attendance as one of 11 delegates to the Not In Our Town conference held in Montana. Sayler distributed to Council a summarized report about the conference.

Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Grigore had no report.

City Attorney Michael Marsh was not present.

Utilities Director Brian O'Connell reported that the Ohio EPA has increased its interest in algae issues at water plants. City staff recently attended a meeting at the Ohio EPA to learn about what things the EPA will be looking for and what will be asked when reporting data.

Public Works Director Brian Craft had no report.

NEW LEGISLATION

The following new legislation was recommended by the Administration and presented to Council for introduction:

Council Member McOmber, for the Finance Committee, introduced a resolution transferring previously appropriated funds.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Council Committee reports.

LOBBY VISITATIONS

Barbara Ruland, Executive Director of Downtown Bowling Green, thanked the City and all of the volunteers for helping to put on a successful car show on Saturday, July 12.

Collin Strange, (he did not disclose his address) addressed Council regarding the need for a homeless shelter for men in Wood County. Council Member Jeffers commented that he had a recent conversation with the Director of the United Way and while there are no immediate plans to put up a homeless shelter in Wood County, they are looking at ways to deal with the situation and some long-term solutions.

Laura Sanchez, 202 W. Reed Street, noted that she recently spoke with a Council Member from Oberlin, Ohio regarding their involvement in a lawsuit over their city's gun laws.

READING OF LEGISLATION

Clerk read Resolution #3569 transferring previously appropriated funds, for first reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Rowland seconded, to suspend the rules and give Resolution #3569 its second and third readings. On roll call vote, Council Members Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, and Aspacher voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and rules suspended.

Clerk read Resolution #3569 for second and third readings by number and title only.

Council Member McOmber moved, Gordon seconded, to adopt Resolution #3569. On roll call voted, Council Members Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, and Gavarone voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Resolution #3569 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8342 authorizing the Municipal Administrator and the Utilities Director to seek qualifications and/or advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for design, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction, and other services relating to improvements at the intersection of S. Main Street and Gypsy Lane Road, for first reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Rowland seconded, to suspend the rules and give Ordinance #8342 its third reading. On roll call vote, Council Members Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, and Gordon voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and rules suspended.

Clerk read Ordinance #8342 for third reading by number and title only.

Council Member McOmber moved, Jeffers seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8342. On roll call vote, Council Members McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, and Jeffers voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8342 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8343 authorizing the Municipal Administrator and the Utilities Director to seek qualifications and/or advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for design, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction, and other services relating to the resurfacing of a portion of Napoleon Road, for second reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Jeffers seconded, to suspend the rules and give Ordinance #8343 its third reading. On roll call vote, Council Members Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, and McOmber voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and rules suspended.

Clerk read Ordinance #8343 for third reading by number and title only.

Council Member McOmber moved, Zanfardino seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8343. On roll call vote, Council Members Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, and Rowland voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8343 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8344 authorizing the Utilities Director to execute a cooperative agreement between Northwestern Water and Sewer District, the City of Perrysburg, and the City of Bowling Green, and to make application for a Local Government Innovation Fund Grant to conduct a feasibility study for an emergency water interconnection between the City of Toledo and the City of Bowling Green water systems, and declaring an emergency, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8345 amending the Zoning District Map of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, for approximately 20 acres of land on Haskins Road, south of the Community Center and addressed as 1330 Haskins Road, from M-3 Business Park zoning to R-C Recreational-Conservational zoning classification, for second.

Clerk read Resolution #3567 adopting the Estimate of Revenues for the year 2015, for third reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Gordon seconded, to adopt Resolution #3567. On roll call vote, Council Members Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland and Zanfardino voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Resolution #3567 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8337 for cleaning of streets by special assessment, for third reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Rowland seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8337. On roll call vote, Council Members Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, and Aspacher voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8337 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8338 authorizing the Municipal Administrator to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for professional cleaning services for the Municipal Court Building, for third reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Rowland seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8338. On roll call vote, Council Members Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, and Gordon voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8338 adopted.

Council Member Rowland moved, Gavarone seconded, to amend Ordinance #8335 amending and adopting Section 97.05(C) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, regarding recreational activities. Rowland read the revised language for the amended ordinance:

> Section 97.05(C) – *Hunting and Firearms.* No person shall hunt, trap or otherwise pursue wild life within park property, nor shall any person use, carry or posses within park property any form of weapon in violation of the Ohio Revised Code.

Rowland indicated that she feels that the substitute language in the proposed amendment represents the feelings of City Council and representatives of the community. She went on to say that a lot of thinking has gone into this and it has been a struggle for how to best address this in a manner that best satisfies the community.

Council Member Gavarone commented that she also feels comfortable with the revised language and that it accomplishes the purpose of conforming our ordinance with the current state law.

Council Member Zanfardino commented that while he is still struggling with the issue, he does like this new revision better than the first version of the ordinance. Zanfardino went on to say that he continues to struggle with the removal of a list of other prohibited items other than guns. Zanfardino listed those items that include air rifles, spring guns, paintball guns, bows and arrows, and slings. At that point, it was decided to vote on the first motion to amend by substitution and then discuss a further amendment.

On roll call vote, Council Members Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, and Gordon all voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8335 amended by substitution.

Council Member Zanfardino made a motion to further amend Ordinance #8335 to add air rifles, paint ball guns, spring guns, bows & arrows, and/or slings to the list of weapons that are not allowed to be in City parks. Rowland seconded the motion. There was a discussion among Council Members regarding the definition of firearms and types of weapons. Council President Aspacher asked Police Chief Brad Conner to come forward and offer his thoughts regarding the matter. Chief Conner noted even if the list of items was not in the ordinance, that if such items were used in a threatening manner, an individual could be cited or charged. Conner further noted that he read the ordinance with the amendment that Council just adopted and was comfortable with it.

Council President Aspacher reminded Council that the original intent was to keep the ordinance general in nature in order not to inadvertently omit some type of weapon in the list. Aspacher indicated that he feels that the amended version of Ordinance #8335 is sufficient to cover any of these other things.

Council Member McOmber commented that he thought that these sorts of things could be forbidden in the parks by way of park regulations rather than writing it into the ordinance. Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Grigore responded that it certainly could be written into the park regulations, but she feels that there is a chance that if the City starts to list the types of things prohibited, that something would be missed.

Rowland indicated that she would be open to adopting the ordinance as is with the original amended language and then possibly change it again if necessary to add a more specific definition of weapon. McOmber agreed that an ordinance could be changed at any time, but feels that the way it is written now is good while the legal landscape is being worked out on the state level.

Council Member Gordon commented that perhaps today is not the best time to pursue Council Member Zanfardino's proposed amendment and then possibly revisit this issue at another time when a better definition of a weapon according to the Ohio Revised Code is known.

Council Member Jeffers wanted to make it clear that City Council is conforming the City ordinance with state law. He didn't want people to have the impression that Council is able to make the parks safer than they already are, and feels that people need to think about this safety issue when they make their voting decisions at the state level.

Council President Aspacher said that he appreciates the comments Council has received from citizens, but he remains concerned about the ability of City Council to continue to make decisions about the community at the local level. Aspacher noted that he thinks everyone will agree that the provisions of home rule are very important to the community.

On roll call vote on Zanfardino's proposed amendment to Ordinance #8335, Council Members McOmber, Rowland, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, and Jeffers voted no. Council Member Zanfardino voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion defeated.

Council Member Rowland moved, McOmber seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8335 as amended by substitution. On roll call vote, Council Members Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, and McOmber voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8335 adopted as amended.

Council Member Gavarone moved, Jeffers seconded, to adjourn. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher adjourned the July 21, 2014 regular meeting of the City Council at 7:53 p.m., subject to call.

Kay D. Scherreik, Clerk of Council

Michael Aspacher, President of Council